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Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

Report of the President of the Council on consultations with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Information submitted by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system on their activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 2014/25, the Economic and Social Council requested the President of the Council to continue to maintain close contact with the Chair of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples on the matters considered in that resolution and to report thereon to the Council.

2. In paragraph 7 of its resolution 69/99, the General Assembly requested that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories. In paragraph 21 of the same resolution, the Assembly commended the Council for its debate and its resolution on the question and requested the Council to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the Assembly.

3. The following 17 Territories are under the purview of the Special Committee: American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands (Malvinas),[1] French Polynesia, Gibraltar, Guam, Montserrat, New Caledonia, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands and Western Sahara. Information submitted in response to a request to the specialized agencies and the international organizations associated with the United Nations to provide an account of their activities in relation to those Non-Self-Governing Territories is set out below.

II. Support provided to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international organizations associated with the United Nations

4. According to the information received, during the period under review, the following two organizations of the United Nations system continued to provide support to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories pursuant to the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Special Committee.

A. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

5. In the Pacific region, Tokelau participates in a project on strategies and capacity-building in Pacific small island developing States to address climate change impacts on jurisdictional claims, facilitated by the subregional technical cooperation programme of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), which is expected to provide impetus for early action by Pacific small island developing States on the preservation of jurisdictional claims and

[1] A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (see ST/CS/SER.A/42).

contribute to achieving sustainable socioeconomic development in the Pacific small island developing States and to the sustainable conservation and management of the living resources in the exclusive economic zones of small island developing States.

6. Turning to the Caribbean region, all the Territories in the region, namely, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands, are members of the Latin American and Caribbean Forestry Commission of FAO, which, inter alia, advises on the formulation of forest policy and reviews and coordinates its implementation at the regional level. While none of those Territories had participated in the activities of the Commission in the past two years, Montserrat has participated in some of the regional forestry workshops organized by the Caribbean Subgroup of the Commission over the past 10 years.

7. In addition, in 2014, the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission of FAO, which promotes the effective conservation, management and development of the living marine resources of the area of its competence, has worked closely with the Territories in the Caribbean administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Some of those Territories participated in the Commission's regional activities relating to fisheries and aquaculture in 2014, as follows: Anguilla attended a workshop on the stock assessment and management of the Caribbean spiny lobster in the Western Central Atlantic, held in Panama City, from 21 to 23 October 2014; Bermuda participated in the first meeting of the Working Group on the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries, held in Christ Church, Barbados, from 30 September to 2 October 2014, and in the workshop on marine protected areas as a tool for responsible fisheries and sustainable livelihoods in the Caribbean, also held in Christ Church, from 6 to 8 November 2014; Montserrat attended the fifteenth session of the Commission, held in Port of Spain, from 26 to 28 March 2014, the workshop on implementing the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, adopted by FAO in 2009, also held in Port of Spain, from 24 to 28 March 2014, and the above-mentioned workshop on marine protected areas as a tool for responsible fisheries and sustainable livelihoods in the Caribbean; and the Turks and Caicos Islands participated in the second meeting of the working group on queen conch, held in Panama City, from 18 to 20 November 2014.

B. World Food Programme

8. The World Food Programme (WFP) supports refugees from Western Sahara in five refugee camps located near Tindouf, in Algeria, to ensure that their basic food and nutritional needs are met.

9. WFP provides 90,000 general food rations as well as 35,000 supplementary rations to the most vulnerable refugees. In addition, WFP targets some 22,500 pregnant and lactating women, as well as malnourished children between the ages of six months and six years, through its nutrition programme, and distributes mid-morning snacks to 32,500 primary school children through a school feeding activity.